

of the cholera patients in the Hospital.

While I express myself decidedly against the diagnosis of Cholera Asiatica under the circumstances, I must at the same time assent that with the malignancy of the disease as it has shown itself in this community, the measures taken to prevent its spreading have been most useful, as cholera nostras is contagious as well.

The large mortality among native Hawaiians in consequence of the prevailing choleraic disease, as compared with that among the foreign population of this city, may in my opinion be ascribed to the native mode of living and to their principal food, such as fish, crabs, etc., which are easily poisoned and apt to contaminate water, aside from the fact that natives will not act judiciously during sickness and particularly not at the time of the commencement of a contagious disease.

I am pleased to congratulate you and your honorable Board upon the fact that the epidemic seems to be entirely overcome and to say that your judicious measures taken to prevent its spreading have in my opinion no small share in this fortunate result.

I am, dear sir,
Yours most respectfully,
G. C. SURMANN, M.D.

NO BENEFIT FOR CUBA.

Belligerent Rights Not Desirable—
United States Hampered by
Precedent.

Save vague newspaper reports, says a late Washington dispatch, nothing is known at the State Department of the intention of this Government or other American republics to recognize the belligerency of the Cuban revolutionists, and it is quite certain that no formal application for such recognition at the hands of the United States has been made up to this time.

It is not perceived here how the insurgents can reap any substantial advantages at this time from such a recognition, and the only comfort that they could derive would be from the moral effects of an assent by an independent power to the proposition that they had assumed statehood. During the previous revolution in Cuba several of the South and Central American republics did recognize the belligerent rights of the insurgents, but no benefit was derived therefrom. In the present case, if Mexico gave such recognition, as is reported, aside from the moral effect, the practical result would be to stop the Spaniards from using Mexican soil or resources to operate against the insurgents. They could not buy any war vessels or equip with any munitions of war in Mexican ports and Mexico would simply stand exactly neutral toward both parties.

As it is reported that Spain is now fitting out some craft in the United States to aid in the blockade of the Cuban coast, this proceeding would have to be stopped at once if the United States should extend recognition to the insurgents. Either side could ship all the arms and munitions of war they cared to buy in the United States to Cuba, provided they go out as simple merchandise on regular merchant ships, and are not accompanied by a force of men whose object is plainly to arm themselves therewith for hostile operations after leaving our waters, but as this can now be lawfully done, recognition would not extend any privilege now possessed by the insurgents.

As far as the United States is concerned, it took such a pronounced stand in the case of the late Brazilian insurrection that it could scarcely recognize the insurgents in the case of Cuba at present without a complete reversal of its position. It has been held that to entitle them to recognition the insurgents must set up a seat of Government and maintain it; that they must issue money and possess a navy to make effectual any blockade they wish to establish. In short, they must have an actual de facto Government. The State Department is not notified that any of these requirements have been met by the Cubans.

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